

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

LUKE JOHNSON, derivatively on
behalf of AMERICAN RENAL
ASSOCIATES HOLDINGS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOSEPH A. CARLUCCI, JASON M.
BOUCHER, JONATHAN L.
WILCOX, MICHAEL E. BOXER,
SUSANNE V. CLARK, THOMAS W.
ERICKSON, ROBERT H. FISH,
JARED S. HENDRICKS, JOHN M.
JURELLER, SYED T. KAMAL,
PATRICK T. RYAN, and STEVEN M.
SILVER,

Defendants,

and

AMERICAN RENAL ASSOCIATES
HOLDINGS, INC.,

Nominal Defendant.

Case No.: 2:19-cv-15812-MAH

**FINAL ORDER AND
JUDGMENT**

This matter came before the Court for hearing pursuant to this Court's Order Preliminarily Approving Derivative Settlement and Providing for Notice, dated September 14, 2020 (the "Preliminary Approval Order"), on the application of the Parties for final approval of the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement

of Settlement dated July 2, 2020 (the “Stipulation”). Due and adequate notice having been given to Current ARA Stockholders as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order, and the Court having considered all papers filed and proceedings had herein and otherwise being fully informed of the premises and good cause appearing therefore, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

1. This Final Order and Judgment (“Judgment”) incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation, and except where otherwise specified herein, all capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation.

2. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Derivative Action, including all matters necessary to effectuate the Settlement, and over all Parties.

3. This Court finds that the Settlement set forth in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate as to each of the Parties and Current ARA Stockholders, and hereby finally approves the Settlement in all respects and orders the Parties to perform its terms to the extent the Parties have not already done so.

4. The Derivative Action, all claims contained therein, and any other Released Claims (including Unknown Claims), are hereby ordered as fully, finally, and forever compromised, settled, released, discharged and dismissed on the merits

and with prejudice by virtue of the proceedings herein and this Judgment. The Parties are to bear their own costs, except as otherwise provided in the Stipulation.

5. Upon the Effective Date, ARA, Plaintiff, Plaintiff's Counsel, and each of the Current ARA Stockholders (solely in their capacity as ARA stockholders) shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged the Released Claims against the Released Persons and any and all claims arising out of, relating to, or in connection with the defense, settlement, or resolution of the Derivative Action. ARA, Plaintiff, Plaintiff's Counsel and each of the Current ARA Stockholders (solely in their capacity as ARA stockholders) shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, covenanted not to sue any Released Person with respect to any Released Claims (including Unknown Claims), and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from instituting, commencing or prosecuting the Released Claims against the Released Persons. Nothing herein shall in any way impair or restrict the rights of any Party to enforce the terms of the Stipulation.

6. Upon the Effective Date, each of the Released Persons shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, fully, finally, and forever released, relinquished, and discharged each and all of Plaintiff and their beneficiaries and their Related Persons, Plaintiff's Counsel and their Related Persons, ARA, and all Current ARA Stockholders (solely in their capacity as ARA stockholders) from

Defendants' Released Claims. The Released Persons shall be deemed to have, and by operation of this Judgment shall have, covenanted not to sue Plaintiff or their beneficiaries or their Related Persons, Plaintiff's Counsel or their Related Persons, ARA, or any Current ARA Stockholders (solely in their capacity as ARA stockholders) with respect to any Defendants' Released Claims, and shall be permanently barred and enjoined from instituting, commencing or prosecuting Defendants' Released Claims against Plaintiff and their beneficiaries and their Related Persons, Plaintiff's Counsel and their Related Persons, ARA, and all Current ARA Stockholders (solely in their capacity as ARA stockholders). Nothing herein shall in any way impair or restrict the rights of any Party to enforce the terms of the Stipulation.

7. The Court finds that the Notice to Current ARA Stockholders was made in accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order and provided the best notice of the Settlement practicable under the circumstances to all Persons entitled to such notice, and said Notice fully satisfied the requirements of due process.

8. The Court finds that during the course of the Derivative Action, the Parties and their counsel at all times complied with Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

9. The Court finds that the Fee and Expense Award in the amount of four hundred twelve thousand five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$412,500.00) is fair

and reasonable, in accordance with the Stipulation, and finally approves the Fee and Expense Award.

10. The Court finds that the Service Award to Plaintiff in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars and zero cents (\$1,500.00) is fair and reasonable, in accordance with the Stipulation, and finally approves the Service Award, to be paid by Plaintiff's Counsel from the Fee and Expense Award.

11. Consistent with Rule 408 of the Federal Rules of Evidence and the Stipulation, and in accordance with each Individual Defendants' express denial of all allegations of wrongdoing or liability against himself or herself arising out of any conduct, statements, acts, or omissions alleged, or which could have been alleged, in the Derivative Action, this Judgment, the facts and terms of the Stipulation, including any exhibits attached thereto, all proceedings in connection with the Settlement, and any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance of the Stipulation or the Settlement:

(a) shall not be offered, received, or used in any way against the Parties as evidence of, or be deemed to be evidence of, a presumption, concession, or admission by any of the Parties with respect to the truth of any fact alleged by Plaintiff or the validity, or lack thereof, of any claim that has been or could have been asserted in the Derivative Action or in any litigation, or the deficiency, infirmity, or validity of any defense that has been or could have

been asserted in the Derivative Action or in any litigation, or of any fault, wrongdoing, negligence, or liability of any of the Released Persons;

(b) shall not be offered, received, or used in any way against any of the Released Persons as evidence of, or be deemed to be evidence of, a presumption, concession, or admission of any fault, misrepresentation or omission with respect to any statement or written document approved, issued, or made by any Released Person;

(c) shall not be offered, received, or used in any way against any of the Released Persons as evidence of, or be deemed to be evidence of, a presumption, concession, or admission of any liability, fault, negligence, omission or wrongdoing, or in any way referred to for any other reason as against the Released Persons, in any arbitration proceeding or other civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding in any court, administrative agency, or other tribunal; and

(d) shall not be offered, received, or used in any way against Plaintiff or Plaintiff's Counsel as evidence of, or be deemed to be evidence of, a presumption, concession, or admission that any of Plaintiff's claims are without merit or that Plaintiff would not have been able to prevail on his claims at trial.

12. Although neither this Judgment, nor the Stipulation, nor the Settlement, nor any act performed or document executed pursuant to or in furtherance thereof, shall be admissible in any proceeding for the purposes as delineated in paragraph 11(a) – (d), the Judgment, Stipulation, and Settlement may be admissible in another proceeding only to enforce the terms of the Settlement; provided, however, that the Released Persons may refer to the Settlement, and file the Stipulation and/or this Judgment, in any action that may be brought against them to effectuate the liability protections granted them thereunder, including, without limitation, to support a defense or claim based on principles of *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, full faith and credit, release, standing, good faith settlement, judgment bar or reduction or any other theory of claim preclusion or issue preclusion or similar defense or claim under U.S. federal or state law or foreign law.

13. Without affecting the finality of this Judgment in any way, the Court hereby retains continuing jurisdiction over: (a) implementation of the Settlement; and (b) all Parties for the purpose of construing, enforcing, and administering the Stipulation and this Judgment, including, if necessary, setting aside and vacating this Judgment, on motion of a Party, to the extent consistent with and in accordance with the Stipulation if the Effective Date fails to occur in accordance with the Stipulation.

14. This Judgment is a final judgment and should be entered forthwith by the Clerk dismissing the Derivative Action with prejudice.

IT IS SO ORDERED.
DATED: 12/21/2020

s/ Michael A. Hammer
HONORABLE MICHAEL A. HAMMER
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE